

River Road work to begin

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Work to repair the River Road culvert failure in Perry Township was slated to begin Tuesday and will be paid for in part by an emergency grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission.

Lake County Engineer James R. Gills said his office was successful with an application to secure 60 percent emergency funding for the project from the OPWC.

The Engineer's Office will pay the remainder of the cost.

County commissioners conducted an emergency meeting Aug. 17 to authorize the Engineer's Office to make the application to the state agency.

Initial estimates show the project will cost \$155,000, meaning the OPWC will pay about \$92,000, Gills said.

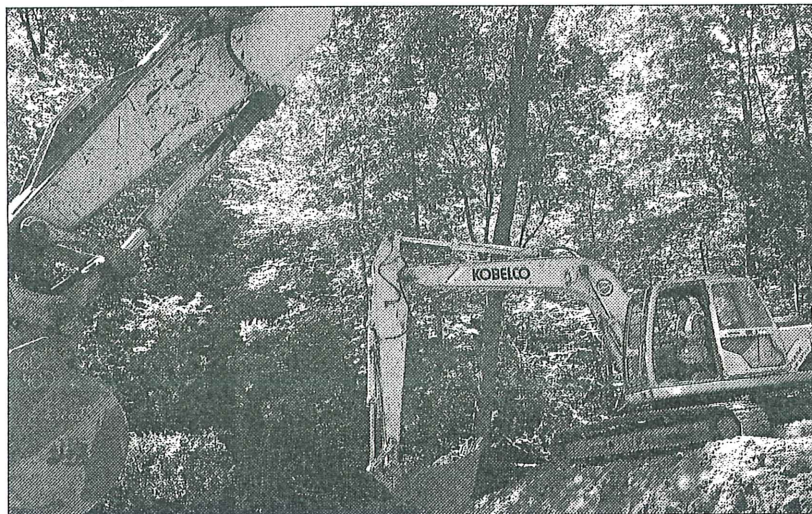
"That's 60 percent and we're very happy with that," he said. "We'll pay for the difference."

Gills said if the project costs less than \$155,000, the OPWC would still pay 60 percent of the cost.

Perry Township-based D B Bentley Excavating will conduct the work to replace the pipe, dig the hole and replace stone up to the pipe, the engineer said.

"Our forces will take over after that," Gills said.

If weather conditions are good, the project should be completed within 30 days.



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D B Bentley Excavating is doing work to repair a culvert on River Road in Perry Township that was taken out by heavy rains earlier this month.

More online

Hear about the River Road project from James R. Gills and the Lake County commissioners.
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"Otherwise, it shouldn't be much longer than the middle of October unless there is something serious," he said.

Heavy rains Aug. 14 initially caused the road culvert and embankment to fail.

Because so much water fell within a

short period of time, the outlet end of the pipe failed and led to the collapse of the culvert on Aug. 15, officials said.

A hole at the location has grown to about 30 to 40 feet wide and about 100 feet long and continues to get worse each time it rains, Gills said.

"It's pretty bad. The road is gone," the engineer said. "Originally when it broke it was just an undermine and just a couple holes in the pavement. Slowly but surely it has opened up because it continues to flow."

During the closure, the posted detour is Route 84 and Webb Road.